GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3076
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2007
STATUS OF PETITIONS SUBMITTED BY EMPLOYEES OF HFCL DURGAPUR
Khan Shri Sunil

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the petitions in regard to claim of ex-exmployees of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd (HFCL), Durgapur who were released prematurely under VSS are pending for withdrawal benefit under earstwhile Employee Pension Scheme, 1971;

(b) if so, the reasons for pendency of petitions;

(c) the action taken on the petitions submitted on behalf of 58 contract workers of the unit who were terminated prematurely;

(d) whether any petition on behalf of the widows of the ex-employees of HFCL, Durgapur unit for continuation of Family Pension has been received; and

(e) If so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K.HANDIQUB)

(a) : No, Sir. Withdrawal benefit under Family Pension Scheme 1971 stands discontinued in terms of the judgement delivered by Honble Supreme Court on 11.11.2003. Members of FPS, 71 are now covered by the Employees Pension Scheme 1995 subject to deposit of the difference amount. The claims of those employees who have submitted their claims under FPS 1995 alongwith deposit of the difference, have been forwarded by HFCL to the Provident Fund Office. There is no pending claim under EPS 1995 with HFCL.

(b) : Does Not arise.

(c): The Department is not aware of any such petition.

(d) & (e): A Family Pension Scheme, separate from FPS-71, was in existence in HFCL. This scheme was withdrawn by the company w.e.f. 31.5.2003 as per the decision of the Board of Directors. Subsequently, the company, as a goodwill gesture, approved payment of a lump-sum amount equivalent to 12 months` pension to the Family Pension holders covered under HFC Family Pension Scheme, as a one time dispensation. The requests received from family pension holders, in this regard, have been settled by HFCL.